



thecollegian

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www.kstatecollegian.com

Distinguished Young Alumni Award honors two alumni for big impacts



EMILY DeSHZER | THE COLLEGIAN

Molly Hamm, 2010 alumna, and Matt Wolters, 2003 alumnus, were selected as recipients of the Student Alumni Board's Distinguished Young Alumni Award.

BY KAITLYN DEWELL
THE COLLEGIAN

In just a few years since their graduation ceremony, two K-State alumni have lived abroad, made an impact and started a company. Now they're back.

Distinguished alumni Molly Hamm, 2010 alumna, and Matt Wolters, 2003 alumnus, were selected as the Student Alumni Board's Distinguished Young Alumni Award recipients. They have returned to their alma mater this week to receive the award and share their stories.

World travels

Hamm graduated with bachelor degrees in English and secondary education, as well as a secondary major in international studies and a minor in nonprofit leadership studies.

She is currently working in the Dominican Republic for the Monitoring, Evaluation and

Learning for the Dominican Republic Education and Mentoring Project, a nonprofit which provides educational opportunities to at-risk youth, ranging in age from 3-26 years old.

"I work on helping (DREAM) demonstrate its impact," Hamm said. "That means being very involved with the planning process of the programs to understand their goals and objectives and measuring our progress towards those outcomes."

The program focuses on early childhood education, high-quality primary education, holistic youth development and arts, culture and community enrichment. By targeting low-income communities, the program is able to impact children and provide them with opportunities they may not have been able to access otherwise.

Hamm said that her time studying education at K-State impacted her own passion for the DREAM Project.

"My background is in education, so I'm really passionate

about that," she said. "I believe that access to higher education is the key to someone's future. I'm also interested in international work in a community way."

During her time at K-State, Hamm served as the president of Student Foundation, service chair for Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society, Student Governing Association chair of University Relations Committee and student coordinator of the School of Leadership Studies' nonprofit leadership focus.

Hamm credits her leadership studies as one of the most influential roles in preparing her for her current career. It provided her with both community service development skills and experience working in leadership roles that are crucial in her job today.

Founding partner

Wolters graduated with his bachelor's degree in agricultural economics. He is now the co-founder and co-owner of

SureFire Ag Systems, Inc. out of Atwood, Kan. The company, founded in 2007 by Wolters and two of his friends, works to design and sell fertilizer application systems that utilize existing pieces of farm equipment.

The idea for the company came about when Wolters and one of his current business partners were working together for another agriculture-based organization.

"We had kind of started thinking about the opportunity that existed while we were there," Wolters said. "We began to see the larger opportunity, because it wasn't the focus of the business that we were working for."

Wolters said he enjoys his career because he's always had a love for the agriculture industry.

"I grew up on a farm and always knew I wanted to end up doing something within the ag industry," he said. "This gives me the opportunity to do that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5, "ALUMNI"

K-State, Manhattan area briefs

BY KAREN SARITA INGRAM
THE COLLEGIAN

Graduate school announces upcoming doctoral dissertations

Three students will be presenting their final doctoral dissertations in March, according to a recent announcement from the Graduate School.

The final doctoral dissertation of Matthew Troia, "A Framework for Understanding Prairie Stream Fish Distributions," will be held March 3 at 8 a.m. in Ackert Hall 324.

Nozella Brown's dissertation, "How Factors that Potentially Influence Perceived Self-Efficacy Affect the Dietary Habits of Low-Income African American Mothers," will be held March 11 at 1 p.m. in Bluemont Hall 124.

The final doctoral dissertation of Kai Yuan, "Metabolic Inflammation and Immunomodulation in Dairy Cows," will be held March 25 at 9:30 a.m. in Call Hall 140.

Attorney General to provide Salina students, residents document disposal

The Attorney General's office announced they will be setting up locations across the state for Kansans to safely shred and dispose of unwanted sensitive documents next week. The week-long event is being held in honor of National Consumer Protection Week, and intends to raise awareness of identity theft and scams.

K-State Salina students and local residents will have access to free document destruction in the Dillon's parking lot, 1201 W. Crawford St. on March 3 from 4-6 p.m. The Attorney General does not plan to hold an event in Manhattan or Olathe. For more information on locations for the event, visit ag.ks.gov.

Three Kansans arrested for attempted murder

Three people were arrested and charged with attempted murder after allegedly attacking a Miltonvale, Kan. man with a hammer.

Jason Weeks and Marlene Keil, Salina residents, and Leroy Taylor, Clay Center resident, were arrested by Cloud County Sheriff's deputies in a car just minutes after the attack on Feb. 21.

According to WIBW and KAKE, all three have been arrested and charged with attempted murder. An undisclosed amount of meth and cash was also found in the vehicle.

The victim, David Dowell, is hospitalized in Salina. His condition was not disclosed by officials.

Local crimes include animal cruelty, child hit by vehicle

BY JON PARTON
THE COLLEGIAN

Dog shot several times with BB gun, suspects wanted

A miniature Doberman Pinscher limped its way home after someone shot it several times with a BB gun Saturday evening.

Riley County Police said a report for cruelty to animals was filed in the 800 block of Brockman Circle. The dog was treated at the K-State Veterinary Medicine Center for its injuries. Police have no suspects at this time and ask anyone with information about the crime to contact them or the Manhattan Riley County Crime Stoppers at 785-539-7777 or toll free at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Child hit in vehicle accident

At approximately 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23, RCPD responded to a vehicle accident in the 2500 block of Kimball Avenue on private property. According to the RCPD, an 8-year-old child had run across a parking lot traffic lane and had been struck by a vehicle. The child was transported to Mercy Regional Hospital after complaining of a non-life threatening injury.

RCPD launches Traffic Enforcement Project

The RCPD has announced that they will increase patrol around school zones or other areas frequented by pedestrians and children through March 7, starting on Feb. 24, in an effort to curb dangerous drivers in the high-traffic areas. They will be watching for distracted or unsafe drivers and issuing appropriate citations.

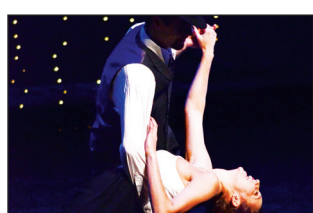
INSIDE

SOCIAL MEDIA

WEATHER



3 Men's basketball looks for second Big 12 road win



6 Dancing with K-State Stars comes to McCain

This Day in History

1870: Hiram Rhodes Revels, a Republican from Mississippi, was sworn into U.S. Senate, becoming the first African-American in Congress.



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Wednesday:



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Thursday:



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14 Desire
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17 Golf props
18 Verily
19 Coffee shop vessel
20 Performs, biblically
21 Rock concert implement
22 Adobe file format
23 Waffle topping
26 Cafeteria with vending machines
30 Sulk
31 Diamond ref
32 Baby-faced
33 Coroner's report

35 Region

of old Palestine
36 Curly's brother
37 First name of 6-Down
38 Take it easy
41 Awful
42 Water barrier
45 Way out
46 Self-govern-ment
48 iPod model
49 Opposite of "post-"
50 Smell
51 Portent
52 Finish
53 Parks or Bonheur

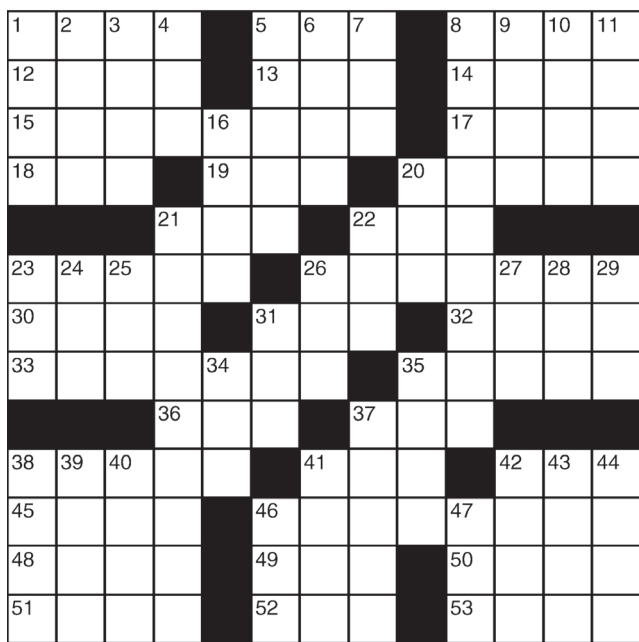
DOWN

1 Crucial time
2 Libertine
3 Tittle
4 Expert
5 Acute
6 "Ain't We Got Fun?"
7 Hostel
8 2002
9 Price-less?
10 Census data
11 Leftovers
16 Protuberance
20 Banned bug
21 Robot
22 Member of a litter
23 Hot tub
24 Second person
25 Trench
26 Actress
27 Pie filling?
28 Con-sumed
29 Mad Hatter's quaff
31 Work with
34 Infectious disease
35 that causes a rash
37 Privacy-protected, as an estate
38 Nevada city
39 Physical
40 Queue
41 Scorch
42 Old foggy
43 Singer
44 "— Breckin-ridge"
46 Mimic
47 Neither mate

Solution time: 21 mins.

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CORR GUN EDDY
HYPED SOFA
ADJ MIKADO
JACKSON EDGER
ABUT BUG AUNT
BATHS BONNETS
STEREO DOC
OWLS WITCH
BEAUDID NILE
RANGICY GLOB
ARCH EKE EYE

Yesterday's answer 2-25



2-25

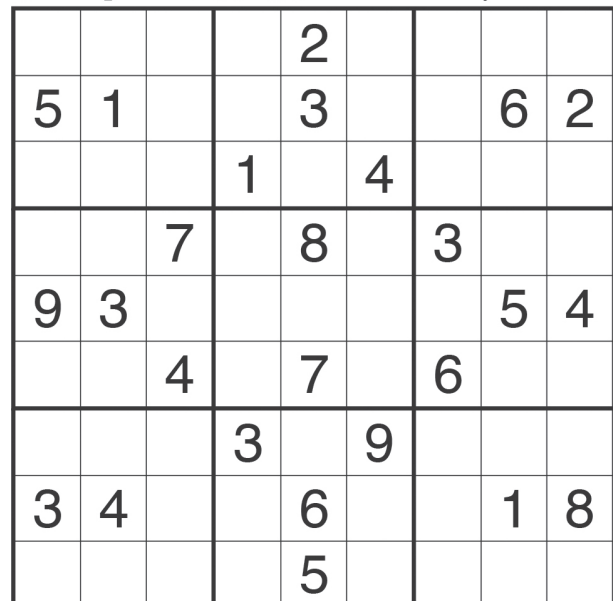
CRYPTOQUIP

Y A G R H S X W H R A H H K
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X E L Y A T E Z . Y A H L ' C H K C G D X D W L

R P V V H C T E Z V C G S C X S - E H R T X .
Yesterday's Cryptokuip: COMPANY MAKING
BREWED DRINKS THAT PEOPLE CAN EASILY CARRY
WHEN THEY'RE ON THE GO: TEA-MOBILE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals T

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★

2/25

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The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

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For the Win | By Parker Wilhelm



The Weekly Planner

Tuesday, Feb. 25

Last day to drop a regular session course without a "W" being recorded.

All Taste No Waste Weigh In
4:45-8 p.m., Derby Dining Center
Student Governing Association Primary Elections
k-state.edu/elections/
Noon to 6 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Chris Blackburn of Biggest Loser
7-8 p.m., West Ballroom K-State Student Union
Evolution of Dance: Dancing with the K-State Stars
8 p.m., McCain Auditorium

Wednesday, Feb. 26

All Taste No Waste Weigh In
4:50-8 p.m., Kramer Dining Center
Student Governing Association Primary Elections
k-state.edu/elections/
Noon to 6 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 27

Knock-Out Bad Body Image Basketball Competition
6-8 p.m., MAC Gym, Recreation Complex

Friday, Feb. 28

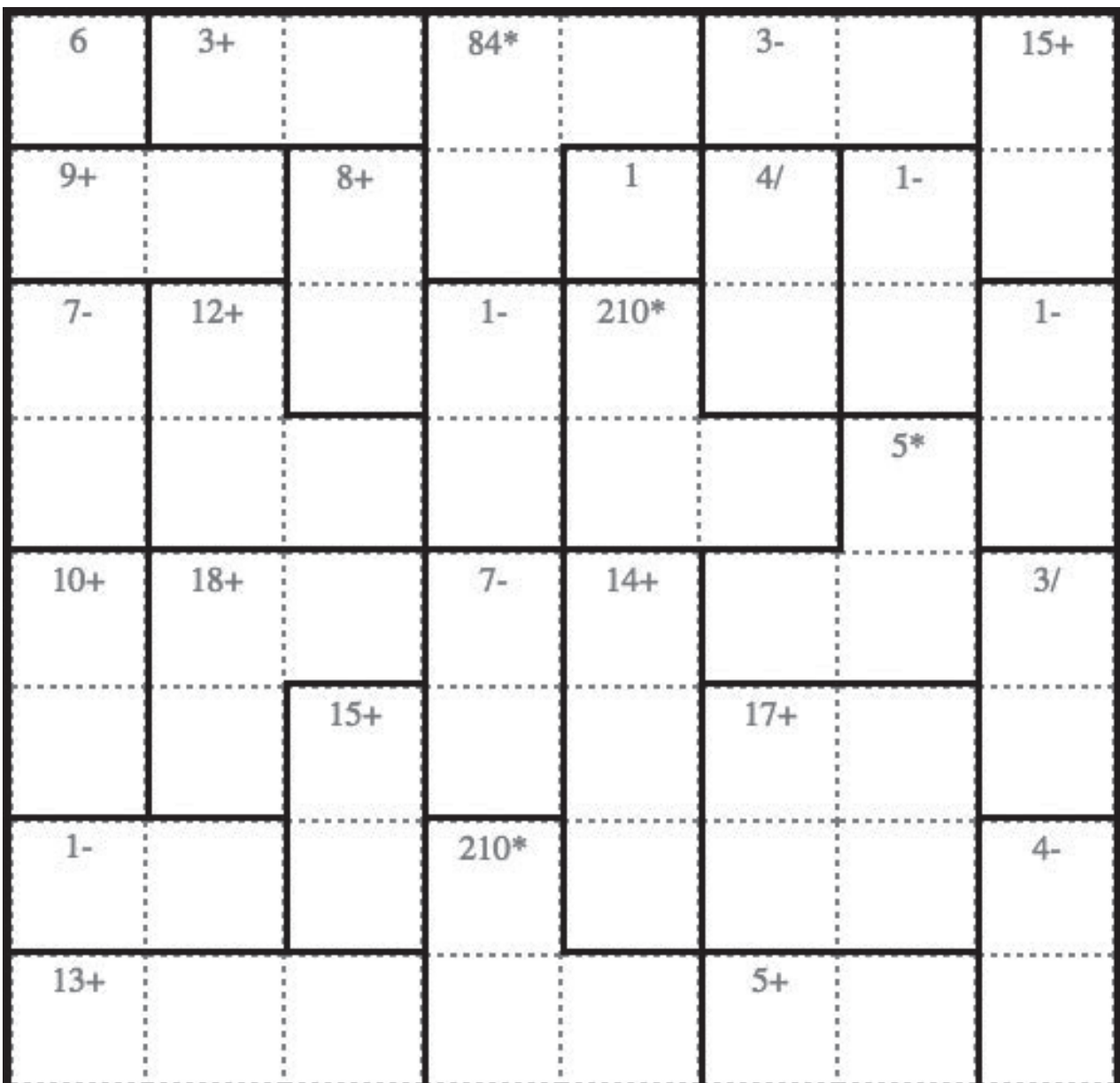
Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company
Dynasties and Beyond
7:30 p.m., McCain Auditorium
UPC After Hours Minute to Win It: Superhero Edition
9 p.m., K-State Student Union Courtyard

Saturday, March 1

Men's Basketball
K-State vs Iowa State
6 p.m., Bramlage Coliseum
UPC Film: Gravity
7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Forum Hall

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MEN'S BASKETBALL



PARKER ROBB | THE COLLEGIAN

Senior guard **Omari Lawrence** sneaks past TCU junior forward **Amric Fields** and senior guard **Jarvis Ray** for a layup in the first half of K-State's 65-53 victory over the Horned Frogs on Feb. 19 in Bramlage Coliseum.

Wildcats need second road win

By JOHN ZETMEIR
THE COLLEGIAN

Tonight, in United Spirit Arena in Lubbock, Texas, the K-State men's basketball team will take the court to once again try to capture a road win. It's been the same song and dance for the Wildcats away from Bramlage Coliseum this season. The Wildcats (18-9, 8-6 Big 12) have one road win in conference play this season. That lone win was against a team without a conference win to their name this season, TCU.

Texas Tech enters the game as one of the surprise teams of the Big 12 season. New head coach Tubby Smith has his team doing something that the Red Raiders haven't done in some time, and that's compete. The Red Raiders (13-14, 5-9 Big 12) have won more Big 12 games this year than they have in the previous two seasons combined. Last week, the Red Raiders took the Kansas Jayhawks, who currently sit atop the Big 12, all the way to the wire. The Jayhawks left Lubbock with a one-point win. Texas Tech only managed to win three conference games last season. This year, Smith is winning games with a very similar team.

A big reason for the Red

Raider's improvements have been because of the improvement and consistency of their senior forward Jaye Crockett. The big man leads his team in both points and rebound this year, solidifying a very experienced front court.

For K-State, they are coming off of a 86-73 loss to Oklahoma on Saturday that pushed their road-losing streak to six games. The Wildcats now find themselves running out of opportunities to add road wins to their tournament resume.

"This league is tough," said head coach Bruce Weber, following the Oklahoma game. "It's hard to win at home, it's hard to win on the road."

The basketball gods have just not been kind to the Wildcats on the road this season. Whether it has been blowouts, buzzer beaters or in double-overtime, the Wildcats have lost in many ways while away from Bramlage this season. A big reason for that has been the lack of energy that the Wildcats seem to have when they aren't playing in front of their purple clad fans.

"I think we feed off our crowd's energy when we're at home," junior guard Thomas Gipson said. "When we're away, we don't have life - like we're dead out there. That's what it was in the first half."

The Wildcats youth has showed on the road this season. One consistent factor lately for the Wildcats has been the strong play of freshman guard Marcus Foster. The freshman has averaged just over 20 points per game in his last three road games. But, even for a player who is clearly finding ways to score no matter where he has played, he'll admit that it just makes it that much tougher on the road.

"When we're playing at home, the energy's always there for us; we can feed off the crowd," Foster said. "From personal experience, when I play at home, I'm so comfortable. I know where I like to shoot and it's just so easy to play at home. It's like that for every player."

In the first matchup between the two teams this season, the Wildcats jumped out to a 12-point half-time lead before a second half lull. It was senior guard Will Spradling who stepped up and sealed the deal for the Wildcats at home against the Red Raiders. Spradling finished with a season-high 17 points against Texas Tech back at the end of January.

The Wildcats will only have one road game left on the schedule before heading to Kansas City, Mo. for the Big 12 tournament after tonight's matchup.

WOMEN'S GOLF

K-State finishes ninth in Westbrook Invitational

By AUSTIN EARL
THE COLLEGIAN

The K-State women's golf team traveled to Peoria, Ariz. to compete in the Westbrook Invitational. They finished ninth out of the 16 teams competing in the tournament.

The Wildcats shot an overall 876, which tied them with Washington State in the ninth place spot. If K-State could have improved their score by just seven strokes, it would have taken them up the lead-

er board all the way to fourth place.

K-State was consistent, with each of their three rounds being within four strokes of each other. The Wildcats opened the tournament by shooting a 294. They had a nice second round, with a 290. Then in the final stanza on Monday, K-State had a score of 292.

Ohio State ran away with the tournament with a score of 838, beating Oregon by 10 strokes. Ohio State's score was a course record.

Although K-State didn't

finish in the top half, they did have a nice tournament. Five of the six of the participating Wildcats' had their best 54 holes of the season.

"There are many positives to take away from this event," K-State head coach Kristi Knight said, according to K-State Sports. "Olivia (Eliasson) was steady all three rounds. I wanted to see a better fourth score today, but that is team golf."

K-State junior Olivia Eliasson had a good weekend for her team. She tied for 11th,

finishing 1-under par. Eliasson also had 11 birdies in the tournament. Senior Gianna Misenhelter was the only other Wildcat that finished in the top 25. Misenhelter was 2-over par and tied for 22nd.

The other Wildcats included junior Carly Ragains, sophomore Scotland Preston, freshmen Katherine Gravel-Coursol and Madison Talley. Ragains was 4-over par, Preston was 9-over par, Talley was 10-over par, and Gravel-Coursol rounded out the group, finishing 12-over par.



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Environmental, health costs of hydraulic ‘fracking’ outweigh economic benefits

By Som Kandlur
THE COLLEGIAN

In its early stages, fracking was expensive. Improvement in technology over the last 50 years has made fracking cheaper. This has attracted the interests of businesses, which have resulted in considerable economic benefits to the states that have allowed for fracking operations.

However, the buck stops there. In my opinion all fracking has given to the states is economic benefit. From this perspective fracking might be seen as a boon, but from a broader perspective, it is nothing short of a tragedy.

Before we proceed, I must clarify that I am not against businesses or economic development. I know what their importance is to the development of a country, as well as the individual benefits it gives the people.

But something has to be said for responsible development. Economic development resulting in large scale pollution of the environment, as well as damage to the health and lives of people is too small a benefit to justify the costs.

One of the primary reasons as to why fracking is so cheap and widespread now is also the reason it is so dangerous. Back when fracking was a relatively new technology, a mixture of water, gasoline and sand was used to drill and fracture the rock to extract natural gas. While this mixture was by no means safe, it was a lot less dangerous than the materials used today.

In a report titled, “Fracking Controversy,” published in the CQ Researcher journal in 2011, Marcia Clemmitt writes that an average fracking opera-

tion today uses around 60,000 gallons of fluid and an average of 100,000 pounds of chemical additives; 750 different kinds of chemicals, including some that have been known to cause cancer are also used to help in the process. The amount of chemicals used in the process pollute the groundwater systems of the areas harming the crops and wildlife which affect the other industries of the state.

The state of Wyoming is a perfect example of how fracking not only pollutes groundwater, but also negatively impacts local industries that a significant amount of the population depends on. In December 2011, the Environmental Protection Agency released data from experiments conducted in Pavillion, Wyo. According to the data, major aquifers that supplied water to the town had been contaminated with high levels of cancer-causing chemicals in at least one chemical compound related to fracking. The data conclusively showed a risk of water contamination through fracking-related chemicals in surrounding groundwater systems.

Furthermore, a report published in September 2012 by Environment America, a citizen-funded advocacy organization, cited a study that concluded that the fracking industry had an adverse effect on the wildlife and game industry due to the construction and operation of the fracking sites.

Fracking operations come at the cost of valuable farmland that is cleared to make room for drilling sites. Even with new techniques that allow for fewer holes to be drilled, while increasing the area mined, water contamination is a constant risk the population has to spend energy and

money to control.

A 2013 study in Colorado, on the effect of fracking on living conditions, concluded that housing properties around the drill sites lost an average of 15 percent of market value due to the odor, truck traffic and environmental pollution. While taxes and revenues from fracking companies contribute to the state’s budget, the upkeep of the roads and infrastructure within the states, for the heavy drilling equipment and products to be transported, is a burden that the states have to bear. States that have or had sanctioned hydraulic fracturing in the past are currently dealing with the economic and infrastructural impact of the damage done to the roads and bridges, resulting from the heavy equipment carried by the trucks.

In Fayetteville, Ark., a hotspot for fracking, the state’s highway department reported

an estimated \$455 million worth of damage to highways. The funds collected from the oil drilling companies are largely insufficient in covering the cost of developing and maintaining the highway, causing the taxpayers of Arkansas to pay in excess of \$400 million in road-repair costs. In this manner, although it is true that fracking certainly has some economic benefits, its negative impact from the social and financial perspective largely outweigh them.

Ideally, government oversight in many of the above cases would prevent hydraulic fracturing to continue. Several countries including Germany, France and South Africa have all banned fracking until its effects on the health of the population and environment is clarified. The lack of federal restrictions and lax policy in the United States, however, prevents such actions by the

government.

Consequently, natural gas companies are exempt from seven of 15 major environmental laws; including those that ensure clean air, drinking water, liability and compensation. Natural gas companies operate with little to no government oversight putting the lives and health of people in the hands of companies for whom profitability is a priority. A prime example of this was seen just this month where Chevron apologized for a fracking well explosion by distributing pizza coupons to nearby residents.

Pro-fracking advocates argue for the economic benefits of fracking – they say it gives states more money in taxes and it provides the people with jobs. They argue there has been no documented evidence of harm being done so, “Whats the problem?” However, their claims are regularly refuted by

evidence that is scientifically proven and can be witnessed first-hand across the U.S. Even the economic benefit argument that fracking advocates reiterate so often has been shown to be flawed by cases such as Wyoming, Arkansas and Colorado.

With the health scares, environmental damage and lack of any significant checks and balances, the fracking industry as it stands is essentially a detriment to the U.S. and must, therefore, be banned.

The views and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Collegian.

Som Kandlur is a junior in marketing. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

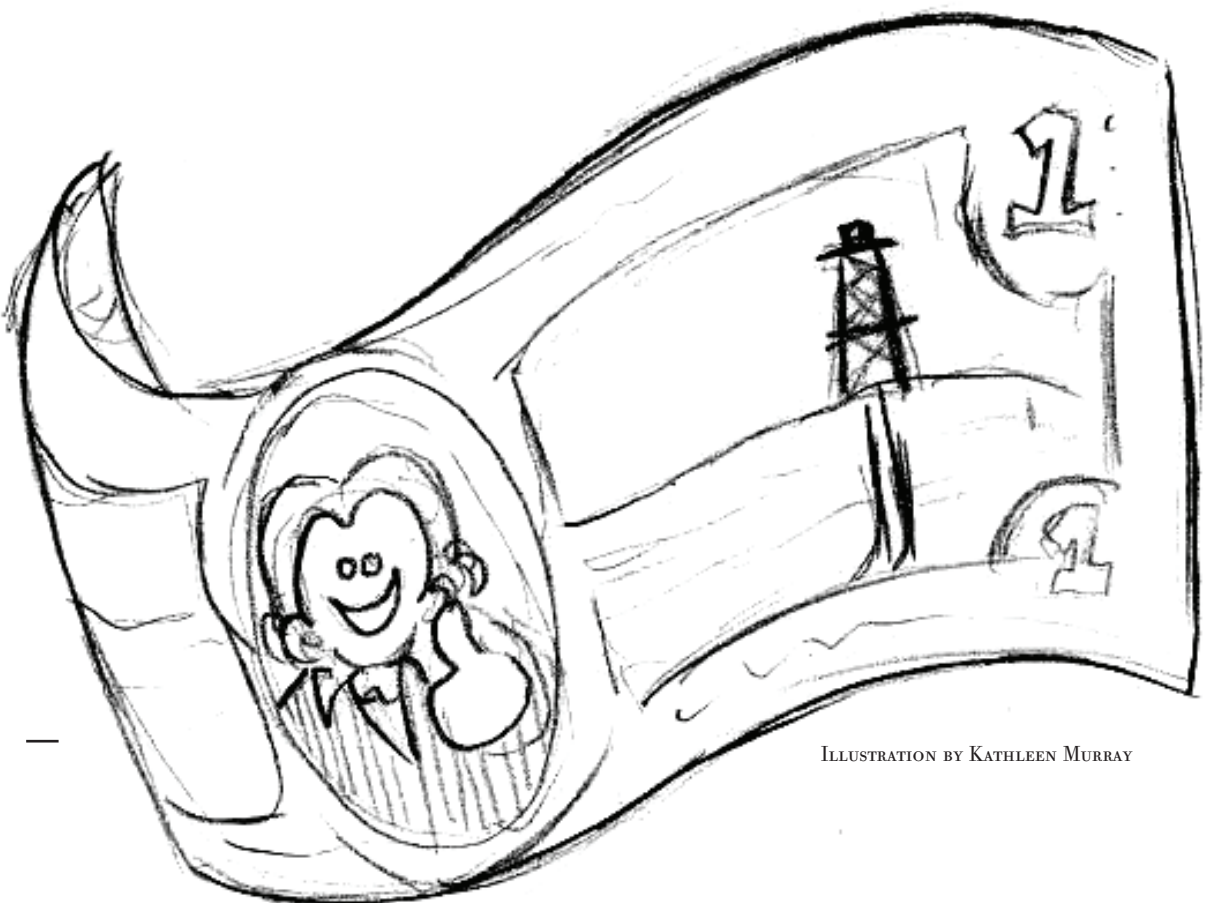


ILLUSTRATION BY KATHLEEN MURRAY

‘Fracking’ an economic boon; Keep drilling Kansas

By Brennan Mense
THE COLLEGIAN

From the first test of the viability for fracking in Kansas in 1947, to large scale operations in the late 1960s, a debate over the environmental ramifications of fracking has been going for decades.

Opponents argue that increased seismic activity and groundwater contamination are a result of the extraction of natural gas or oil involved in fracking. While regulation has increased in many states, only two have made any effort to outlaw fracking entirely – and for good reason.

With energy and the economy both keys to American life, hydraulic fracturing, better known as “fracking,” provides a boost for both. It’s a technique designed

to recover gas and oil from shale rock that has a substantial amount of potential for creating both oil and jobs. Fracking can help to revive a stagnant oil industry in Kansas, not to mention the United States, with little downside reported to date.

According to the American Petroleum Institute, the United States will lose 45 percent of domestic natural gas production and 17 percent of domestic oil production within 5 years without fracking. Many of these resources couldn’t be as inexpensively extracted using conventional methods, making a ban on fracking economically impractical now, and in the future.

While these figures reflect the situation in the U.S., Kansas has looked to fracking to breathe new life into an industry that has largely

been on the decline since the 1960s. So far, the results have been far from outstanding, but still encouraging, nonetheless.

According to a Jan. 8, 2013 Reuters column by John Kemp, from 2010 to 2012, the amount of horizontal oil wells drilled in the state increased from 10 to 143, a more than 1330 percent increase.

The U.S., are enjoying the increased production. In December 2013, Bloomberg News reported that America increased production by a record pace of 18 percent in 12 months and is on pace to become the world’s largest producer of oil by 2015.

In the January 2013 Reuters column, the Kansas Department of Commerce said that, “The potential economic benefits to Kansas could be significant, resulting

in hundreds of wells drilled, billions of dollars in investment, thousands of jobs and industry activity ... for the next 20 to 30 years.”

The KDC clearly said this with hopes of repeating the success that North Dakota has seen with the Bakken Oil Field.

In North Dakota, the state has seen a large influx of migrant workers in search of high-paying jobs. Despite the migration, the Bureau of Labor Statistics currently lists North Dakota as having an absurdly-low unemployment rate of 2.6 percent – a full percent ahead of second place Nebraska. Kansas currently sits in 10th place at a respectable 4.9 percent unemployment.

Aside from the positive impact on the economy and the job market, the same Reuters column reported that

the Kansas Geological Survey has observed no adverse economic impacts of fracking in Kansas. In May 2012, the KGS published a report stating that, of the 244,000 vertical wells drilled in the state since 1947, 57,000 have been fracked with no noticeable ill-effects.

The U.S. Geological Survey offers more of the same ideas, stating that there is no evidence to suggest that the increase in seismic activity in Kansas and Oklahoma is due to fracking, as some have argued. In addition, the USGS also stated that wastewater is a product of oil production as a whole, and is independent of fracking.

The KGS states that Kansas simply has not encountered any of the other problems that states such as Texas, West Virginia, Pennsylvania or Ohio has in

relation to the practice.

“Kansas’ favorable geologic setting, its regulatory process, and its successful history of hydraulic fracturing and fluid management make it one of the safer regions of the country to employ the practice,” the KGS said.

If Kansas has not encountered any problems, why is there any reason to stop fracking? Ladies and gentlemen, start drilling!

The views and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The Collegian.

Brennan Mense is a freshman in pre-journalism. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

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The Collegian seems pretty confident in thinking there are 29 days in February; did I miss something?

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Street Talk

Q: “What is Fracking?”

SHELBY SHORE
JUNIOR,
MUSIC EDUCATION

“I usually see that instead of freaking.”

AUSTIN DUGAN
SOPHOMORE,
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

“Fracking is when they go in to the ground ... they break down the rock to extract natural gasses.”

NATALIE POWELL
FRESHMAN,
PRE-MED

“Is it like shacking at a frathouse?”

TREVOR BOWERS
SENIOR,
ACCOUNTING

“I have no idea, man.”

KATIE RODEE
SENIOR,
SOCIAL WORK

“I don’t think of it as a noun so much as an adjective in place of another word, like, ‘What the frack is fracking?’”

ALUMNI | Award created to increase interactions between students, alumni

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and work with farmers across the country. Over the last 6 1/2 years, we've been able to create a number of jobs, create a business that results in revenue coming into the local economy here, and help economic growth in our home town."

During his time at K-State, Wolters served as the recruitment chairman for his fraternity Beta Sigma Psi, as an ambassador for the College of Agriculture, senator for the College of Agriculture in Student Governing Association, chair of Student Senate, and a mem-

ber of Blue Key Senior Honorary.

"Certainly the most beneficial experience at K-State was my time in the fraternity," he said. "I enjoyed just being involved in an organization that required leadership and required me to be involved with many aspects of the organization in order to make it function."

'Tremendous honor'

Both Wolters and Hamm expressed their sincere gratitude of being selected for the Distinguished Young Alumni Awards.

"It's a tremendous honor," Wolters said. "I'm hum-

bled by my peers that nominated me, that they took the time to put together the application. I know that took a tremendous amount of work on their part, so I'm just humbled by their efforts to recognize me."

Nomination process

The award selection process starts with applications. This year, SAB recieved almost 30 applications from various colleges and organizations. All applications were ranked by a panel of the SAB president and advisors, vice president of campus programming and members of the campus pro-

gramming committee within SAB. Hamm and Wolters were selected based on their overall scores.

The Distinguished Young Alumni Award was created last year when members of SAB recognized a need for increased interaction between current K-State students and those who have already graduated.

"We originally started it because SAB's purpose is to connect current students to former students to future students, kind of like a complete triangle," Jordan Pieschl, junior in agricultural communications and SAB vice president for campus

programming, said.

Hamm and Wolters got to K-State on Monday to speak to various student classes and groups. They will conclude their stay on Wednesday. Their keynote address is Tuesday at 5 p.m. in Forum Hall.

"The keynote is the big one, because anyone across campus, students and faculty, can hear their story and how their K-State experience led them to such success," Pieschl said.

'Impactful' award

Wolters said that, as a third-generation K-State student, the award is espe-

cially impactful.

"I was born and raised to bleed purple and now to be honored as a Distinguished Young Alumni from that perspective is really special," he said.

Hamm echoed his sentiments.

"I'm really proud of where I came from and I'm proud of the education I received at K-State," she said. "Being honored by K-State and its students shows that they value the idea of contributing to a greater good and the idea that having an impact on your community isn't limited to a certain definition."

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- ▲ Anderson/Seth Child
- Aggieville/Downtown
- ◆ East Campus
- ★ Close to town

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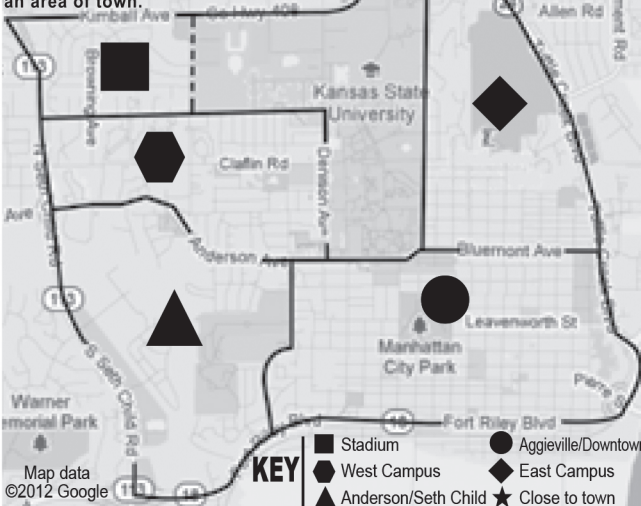
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From ABC to KSU – it's Dancing with the K-State Stars

By HAYLEY LOLLAR
THE COLLEGIAN

Dancing with the K-State Stars is a spin-off of the reality television show, "Dancing with the Stars." On the reality show, popular celebrities are paired with professional dancers and compete to win over America and the judges in hopes of winning.

Now, it's "coming" to Manhattan, with a K-State spin.

The Union Programming Council will host Season 6 of Dancing Through the Decades: Dancing with the K-State Stars on Tuesday at 8 p.m. in McCain Auditorium. The event is free.

Student "stars"

The performance will consist of student dancers as the "professionals," paired with student leaders as the "K-State Stars."

Each pair is given a different decade and style of dance to construct their performance around. They will perform in front of the live "studio" audience, including three judges.

Judson Laipply from YouTube's viral video, "The Evolution of Dance," will take on two roles at the performance.

"He's going to be a judge and he's also going to perform," Ross Jensby, president of UPC and senior in mass communications, said.

The student pairing with the highest score will receive a disco ball trophy. Last year, Grant Hill,

student body vice president and junior in accounting at the time, and Lexie Casey, senior in elementary education at the time, won the competition.

Laipply will also speak about motivation and success in Forum Hall from 2-3 p.m. Tuesday. The event is free to the public.

A 'balance'

The UPC Community co-chairs planned Dancing with the K-State Stars and chose this year's contestants.

"They try to balance out campus life," Jensby said. "They'll get someone from the band ... they ask someone from student government usually, or the K-State student ambassador."

The committee co-chairs search for students within prominent groups and organizations on campus to be the "stars."

"It's really funny to see the all students dancing," Jensby said. "It's people you know and they're not necessarily good dancers, but they are paired with people who are good dancers."

The committee co-chairs took suggestions from dance professors and sent out applications to find the right experienced dancers to pair with the stars. Jamie Teixeira, junior in English, is competing in the show for the first time as one of the professional dancers.

"I got an email from the K-State dance listserv asking for people to apply," Teixeira said. "I saw it last year and I thought it was a really exciting show that they produced ... so I said, 'Why not.'"

K-State student ambassador Chance Berndt, junior in marketing, is performing in the show as a star.

"I'm really nervous about dropping my partner," Berndt said. "But beyond, that I'm just really excited to see everyone else's dances ... it is going to be a fantastic show."

FILE PHOTO | THE COLLEGIAN

K-State volleyball player **Courtney Traxson**, '13 graduate in psychology, and **Jeremy Kemberling**, Manhattan resident, dance their version of the West Coast Swing in Season 5 of Dancing with the K-State Stars on Feb. 4, 2013, at McCain Auditorium.

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